

INDIGENOUS STUDIES

FEATURED COURSES

Introduction to Indigenous Australian Issues: Past, Present, Future ABTS1000

The course explores Indigenous Australian (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) history and culture to gain insight into contemporary Australian issues of the past, present and future. Drawing on the knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from diverse backgrounds through guest lecturers and through accessing other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander viewpoints, the course provides students with a unique experience of engaging in dialogues with Indigenous Australian people to learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's experiences. The course provides students with the skills to establish an understanding of the cross-cultural dimensions of issues and perspectives relevant to Indigenous Australians.

Torres Strait Islander Studies ABTS1010

In this course, students have the opportunity to participate in Torres Strait Islander dance and song, prepare Islander food and meet Torres Strait Islander elders. The course also provides exploration of a wide range of topics from the unique geography of Torres Strait to the influences of post-colonial history, the intricate relationship of the 'sea', the social organisation and social structure within Torres Strait Islander society and culture, then and now. Interwoven throughout the course are themes of colonisation, marginalisation, governance, identity and cultural perspectives. Students consider both traditional and contemporary Torres Strait Islander society and culture, and learn from guest lecturers and community elders from the Torres Strait Islander community in Brisbane.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Approaches to Knowledge ABTS2020

The philosophy and ethics of teaching and learning applied in this program aim to model Indigenous approaches to knowledge. This is achieved through a flexible, open and friendly environment with respect for individual diversity in approaching an understanding of issues. Staff and students engage in open and frank discussions in which the widest possible range of views are presented and challenged with the aim of establishing a balanced understanding of any given aspect of Indigenous worldviews. Indigenous knowledge is 'making sense of the world', it is a living knowledge and its very nature demands that it remains in a state of becoming to maintain the vitality of our learning together.

Aboriginal Music: Performing, Place, Power and Identity ABTS2102

The course aims to: deconstruct categories of Indigenous Australian performance such as

traditional and contemporary; situate Indigenous Australian performers in terms of their fluid and dynamic identities; relate performance practice to status, authority, ownership, power and knowledge; understand the complex relationship between performance and country; and discuss representations of Indigenous Australian performance. Through a combination of independent research, readings and meetings with the course coordinator, students increase their understanding of the impact of colonialism on Indigenous Australian peoples and their contemporary music making; raise awareness of the diversity of Indigenous performance; and examine and reflect on how Indigenous Australian performers simultaneously resist and use colonialist constructions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander performance to create new and exciting forms.

Anthropology of Aboriginal Australia ANTH2010

This course explores relations among and between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians in contemporary Australian society, with a focus on Aboriginal Australian society. We examine the topic through an anthropological lens, with some special attention to the ways in which anthropologists have worked with Australian Aboriginal people in applied and academic research.

The course looks at the diversity of Indigenous societies in Australia, and case examples in lectures are used from many different areas of the Australian continent and islands, taking in remote "outback" social realities and histories as well as urban life and politics. Considered are Aboriginal peoples' relationships to land, the process of colonisation in Australian society, the role of anthropologists in Aboriginal communities, as well as the work of anthropologists in understanding Indigenous relationships with non-Indigenous Australians. Themes such as kinship, cosmology, material culture, health and gender are discussed, in addition to concerns such as land rights, effects of government policy, and identity politics.

OTHER COURSES

The table below lists other popular courses in this area available to Study Abroad and Exchange students. A full list of courses can be found on UQ's Courses and Programs website at www.uq.edu.au/study

UQ CODE	COURSE NAME
ABTS3020	Working with Indigenous People
ABTS2080	Independent Project
ABTS2090	Independent Project
ABTS3000	Aboriginal Politics and Political Issues
ARTT2103	Australian Indigenous Art
ANTH2098	Aboriginal Heritage: Anthropological and Archaeological Perspectives
ABTS2060	Family, Country, Community
ABTS2010	Aboriginal Women: Gendered Business



"The relationships I made with Aboriginal staff and students in the class generated the most rewarding experiences I had during my time abroad. The friends I made in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit at UQ introduced me to many exciting places and groups of people, all of whom generously taught me about their beliefs, customs, histories, struggles, and hopes for the future."

Indigenous Australians are willing to share their invaluable stories of their land and people with those who engage with them. Even now, as I continue my studies in the United States, my mind and heart reside with the courageous people and spirit of Aboriginal Australia."

SOLEIL ROBERTS, UNITED STATES
(STUDY ABROAD STUDENT)

UQ CODE	COURSE NAME
ABTS3010	Work Placement in Indigenous Australian Studies
INDH1005	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health
INDH2109	Alcohol, Substance Use & Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander People

NOTES

- Course information is correct as at April 2010 and may change in 2011. Please refer to www.uq.edu.au/study for current information.
- Whilst all listed courses are available to Study Abroad and Exchange students, some will require Faculty/School approval, as relevant previous study is required.